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FOR THE YEAR 1819.

REPORT

OF THE

SICK AND DESTITUTE

STRANGERS' FRIEND SOCIETY;

Instituted for the purpose of

VISITING AND RELIEVING

SICK AND DISTRESSED STRANGERS

AT THEIR RESPECTIVE HABITATIONS;

With a

List of Subscribers.

~~~~~  
"I was an *hungred*, and ye gave me meat; I was a *stranger*, and ye took me in;  
*naked*, and ye clothed me; I was *sick*, and ye visited me." Matt. xxv. 35, 36.  
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GLASGOW:

PRINTED BY R. CHAPMAN, TRONGATE,

For the Committee of the Strangers' Friend Society.

1820.

77396

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GENERAL RULES.



I.

THAT the Members of this Society meet every Tuesday night, in one of the rooms over the Evening Chapel, in John-street, at eight o'clock, when any Benefactor, either by attending personally, or by sending a note in writing, may recommend objects of distress, who will be visited, and their cases taken into consideration.

II.

That proper books be provided, and regular entries made of receipts and disbursements; that those books shall be free of access for the inspection of Subscribers and the Public.

III.

That the Visitors be appointed from time to

time at these meetings, who shall be deemed capable of instructing those they visit in the way of righteousness.

iv.

That, in order to avoid imposition, no person or persons shall be relieved previous to their being visited ; that the Visitors recommend cleanliness.

v.

That the Visitors shall inquire of the neighbours, whether the person or family in distress has any means of subsistence from any other source.

vi.

That two Visitors shall go together, and that they shall each respectively change his partner weekly.

vii.

That the Visitors, and others taking an active

part in this work, shall be willing to engage in it heartily, faithfully, and gratuitously; that they shall consider the cases to which they are respectively appointed by the Weekly Meeting, as under their immediate care during the week, and shall endeavour to see such casual case on the day first apprized of it, especially if speedy death be apprehended.

VII.

That the relief administered shall be expressly given in the name of the “*Sick and Destitute Strangers’ Friend Society.*”

IX.

That no Member of the Methodist Connexion shall, on any pretence whatever, be relieved by this Society.

PRESIDENT,
WILLIAM CHISHOLM.

TREASURER,
RICHARD THOMPSON.

SECRETARY,
THOMAS BEWLEY.

REPORT
OF THE
Sick and Destitute Strangers' Friend
SOCIETY,
FOR 1819.

IN Reporting to the GLASGOW STRANGERS' FRIEND SOCIETY, and to the Public, the proceedings of the past year, the duties of the Committee are placed within a very small compass. They have still to acknowledge, with gratitude, that the Funds of the Institution are liberally supported; and that the fidelity, prudence, and diligence of the Visitors remain undiminished. The services of this class of labourers have been, and still are, of the highest importance, and deserving of the greatest praise.

The number of cases brought under the notice of your Committee during the past year has not been quite so great as in some former years. This has been owing to the vigorous efforts made by the city in general for the support of the poor, and for removing many of them to the places of their nativity. It would, however, be very incorrect to infer from this, that it is less necessary than formerly generously to supply, and industriously and wisely to distribute, the pecuniary aid of your excellent Institution. Many a poor Stranger will still be found within the limits of our populous city, and it will still afford pleasure to the Committee and Members of the Strangers' Friend Society, to remove the tears of distress from the cheeks of a class of sufferers to which our attention is so particularly directed by the Sacred Volume.

The number of cases relieved since the commencement of this Institution is *six thousand, eight hundred and seventy-five*, of which, *two hundred and one* have been visited and relieved during the past year.

The following are selected as a specimen of the cases recently relieved, and will speak loudly to the hearts of those that read them.

CASE I.—Samuel Morrain, his Wife and Five Children, when first visited, were found in the most deplorable situation, the whole family sick except one, and an infant at the breast. Their only bed consisted of a few shavings spread in the corner of the room, and they had nothing to subsist upon. In this wretched state, their unfeeling landlord turned them out of doors, as they could not pay their rent ; but the Society got them into another place, by advancing a week's rent. They had not been long here before the wife died, which increased their trouble to a great degree, as the father was now obliged to attend to the infant himself. In his absence it unfortunately happened that one of the children set fire to the shavings, and burnt most of the few rags of clothes and bedding they had. After being attended and relieved by the Society for the space of ten weeks, finding them likely to be a greater burden than the funds could bear, it was proposed to them to return to Ireland, their native place ; and, as they were willing to go, a passage was procured for them, with necessaries for the voyage, and a few shillings to help them forward to their native town.

They were Roman Catholics, and having no

Bible, one was furnished them, which we have reason to believe was read with attention. From this, added to the consolatory and warning admonitions of the Visitors for a period of many weeks, a great change was observed; which, it is hoped, will be found at the last day to have been both permanent and saving.

CASE II.—This family consisted of Thomas Hood, his Wife, and Three Children under seven years of age. The husband was consumptive, the wife pregnant, and one of the children a cripple. There was, however, an appearance of decency in this family seldom observable in cases of this kind, which convinced the Visitors that they had once seen better days, but, from a series of accumulated misfortunes, they were now reduced to the most abject poverty, and appeared to want the common necessities of life. After languishing for the space of twenty-one weeks, the man died, and the woman was delivered twenty-three hours after; thus exhibiting a picture of wretchedness, calculated to impress the most callous with sentiments of pity and commiseration. The Society continued to visit and relieve this family until they were in a situation to provide for themselves.

CASE III.—Is that of James Crithers, his Wife and Five helpless Children, who were found by the Visitors in a state of wretchedness not at all inferior to either of the foregoing. A few shavings, with scarcely any covering, at a most inclement season, was all that this distressed family had to screen them from the piercing cold : in addition to this, they were all laid up with fever, except one, and not able to render each other any assistance. They received as much pecuniary aid, weekly, as the funds of the Establishment would admit of, until they were all restored to health and enabled to provide for themselves.

Having no Bible, they were furnished with one, and instructed therein by the Visitors ; who have reason to hope, their labours in this respect had a very salutary effect.

Many cases similar to these have come under the notice of your Committee ; but these, it is presumed, are sufficient to show, that the contributions and labours of the Society are most beneficially bestowed.

List of Subscribers.

A

Alexander, Miss, George's Square	£1	1	0
Allan, Robert, & Co.	1	1	0
Arnott, Colin	1	1	0

B

Bartholomew, John	2	2	0
Bain, Joseph	1	1	0
Bell, William	1	1	0
Brown, Mrs., of Langside	1	1	0
Brown, T., 16, Miller-street	1	1	0
Burn, George	1	1	0

C

Campbell, Colin	2	2	0
Carrick, Robert, Ship Bank	2	2	0
Chisholm, James	2	2	0
Chisholm, William	2	2	0
Campbell, Alexander	1	1	0
Campbell, M. N.	1	1	0
Colquhoun, Walter	1	1	0
Cowan, John	1	1	0
Crooks, Adam	1	1	0
Currie, William, Charlotte-street	1	1	0

13

D

Dunn, William, George's Square	£2	2	0
Dalglish, Robert	1	1	0
Denny, David	1	1	0
Dick, Richard	1	1	0
Dinwiddie, Mrs., Stirling Road	1	1	0
Douglas, George	1	1	0
Downie, John	1	1	0

E

Edgar, James	1	1	0
Ewing, James, head of Queen-street	1	1	0
Ewing Patrick	1	1	0

F

Finlay, Kirkman, M. P.	3	3	0
Fleming, Bowman	2	2	0
Fyffe, James, Miller-street	2	2	0
Falconer, Patrick	1	1	0
Friend, A	0	5	0

G

Graham, Robert, Whitehill	2	2	0
Gumprecht, T. (<i>two years</i>)	2	2	0
Garden, Alexander	1	1	0
Gray, John B.	1	1	0
Gilchrist, Risk & Co.	1	1	0

H

Henderson, James E.	1	1	0
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Henderson, John	£1	1	0
Henderson, Robert	1	1	0
Hutcheson, Charles	1	1	0

K

Kelly, William	1	1	0
Kippen & Wilsone	1	1	0

L

Leslie & Reid	1	1	0
Liddell, Archibald	1	1	0
Lumsden, J., jun.	1	1	0

M

Monteith, Henry	3	3	0
Mathie, Benjamin	1	1	0
Macgeorge, Andrew	1	1	0
M'Ilwham, John	1	1	0
Mitchell, Andrew	1	1	0
Mitchell, Thomas	1	1	0
Mitchell, William	1	1	0
M'Lellan, Robert	1	1	0
Mochrie & Brothers	1	1	0
Monteith, William	1	1	0
Mudie, Robert	1	1	0

O

Oswald, Mrs., Scotstown	2	2	0
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P

Perston, John	1	1	0
Perston, Matthew	1	1	0

Playfair, James	£1	1	0
Playfair, Patrick	1	1	0

R

Rankine, Andrew	1	0	0
Robertson, L. & A.	1	1	0
Ryburn, John	1	1	0

S

Smith, Mrs., George's Square	2	2	0
Stering, Charles	2	2	0
Sword, James, Annfield	2	2	0
Smith, Archibald, Jordanhill	2	0	0
Stevenson, William	1	1	0

T

Thompson, Richard	2	2	0
Tennant, Robert	1	1	0
Tennent, John	1	1	0
Thompson, Robert	1	1	0
Thompson, Robert, jun.	1	1	0

U

Urquhart, John	1	1	0
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W

Watson, Robert, Banker	2	2	0
Walker, Robert	1	1	0
Watson, Gilbert	1	1	0
White, Andrew	1	1	0
Wigham, Anthony	1	1	0
Wright, J., jun.	1	1	0

*Treasurer of the Sick and Destitute Strangers'
Friend Society.*

1819.	Dr.	1819.	Cr.
To Sundry Subscriptions.....	£109 6 0	By Balance due the Treasurer.....	£2 17 9
		— Weekly Disbursements.....	65 11 6
		— Arthur Scott, for Collecting.....	5 5 0
		— Subscription to the Infirmary.....	5 5 0
		— Paid Infirmary for Funerals.....	1 19 0
		— Stationery and Printing.....	3 19 6
		— Balance.....	24 8 3
			<u>£109 6 0</u>
			<u>£109 6 0</u>
To Balance in hand.....	£24 8 3		